



THE SPECIAL-IST EDITION

NOVEMBER 2015



What's Happening in Health... with Mrs. McDonald



Gr.2



The grade 2 students recently finished our first unit where they learned about different types of feelings and techniques to use to calm down and problem solve. We read a great book called *Today I Feel Silly and Other Moods that Make my Day* by Jamie Lee Curtis. The students then created their own pages for a classroom book in which each student talked about a specific feeling and what may make them feel that way.



We have now moved on to the Human Body. Our focus in grade 2 is to learn the basic parts of the Digestive and Circulatory Systems as well as their functions. Students have followed the path of digestion by reading stories, coloring diagrams and watching the process happen in the always-enjoyable *Magic School Bus: For Lunch!* Next up are the blood cells and the heart ♥. Be on the look out for a cool “recipe for blood”. We will be using it in class to replicate the parts of blood.



Gr. 4



Students in grade 4 spent the first few weeks discussing some important character traits such as empathy, tolerance and prejudice as well as learning about the importance of good communication and knowing ways to solve conflict.



Moving forward, our focus has shifted to the human body, specifically, the Skeletal and Muscular systems. Students will spend time learning about the basic bones and their functions and some major muscle groups and how they work with the bones to move our bodies. Soon they will get a chance to spend some hands-on with time “Skully” everyone’s favorite skeleton!





Musical Notes

Hello from the Music Room! We are already having a wonderful and very musical year here at Floral Street School.

In the first grade this trimester, we have been working on keeping a steady beat using body percussion, and playing rhythm sticks and other classroom percussion instruments. We have been exploring our singing, speaking and whispering voices as well as playing some really fun musical games. Some of us have gotten to talk to Bebo the Bluebird, who is getting ready to fly south for the winter.

Our second, third and fourth graders have been reviewing the concepts of Tempo and Dynamics. We've had some fun singing about them, especially our new songs about Crescendo and Decrescendo. You can find them on Youtube at...

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXXIRGXyB_A

We had a terrific time during the week of Fall Festival, as well. "Spooky Walk" was a big hit in every grade level. It's a steady beat activity hidden in a musical story. Other fun activities and songs included "The Ghost of John",

"Apple on a Stick" and "Autumn-ish Feeling".

In fourth grade this trimester, we began playing recorders! They kids have really mastered the notes B, A and G and are quickly progressing! Our next two notes will be high C and high D. Ask your fourth grader to show off and have them play you a song on their recorder!

A special thank you goes out to all of our friends who have sent in boxes of tissues and bottles of hand sanitizer. We could use a few more, if you have any to spare...All of the noses in the music room will be happy this year! We really appreciate your generosity!

Musically yours,

Mrs. DeBlois and
Miss Hall



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Fourth Grade Winter Chorus Concerts:

January 19th 6:30pm - Goulding, Manning, and Morgan Classes

January 19th 7:30pm - Edgren, Ralys, and Spangenberg Classes

January 20th 6:30pm - Leifer, Powell, and Ross Classes





Noise From the Gym

Thanks to everyone for remembering to wear their sneakers for physical education classes! The kids are excited to earn a 'sneaker stamp' when the entire class comes prepared with sneakers. Added thanks to those who donated to our 'sneaker bank' in the gym.



'Stick Work' is the name of the game in fourth grade physical education class. We kicked off the year with a unit on field hockey. We learned how to stick handle, pass, shoot and play offense and defense positions.

Third graders improved their throwing and catching as quarterbacks and receivers in our football unit. We were moving to catch, running the ball and scoring touchdowns!



In first and second grade, students are learning the ropes of how to move in safe spaces, cooperate with others and follow directions in a large group. In our first unit we were dribbling, passing and scoring goals in soccer.

Don't be surprised if you hear our Floral friends talking about the Nina, Pinta, and Santa Maria sailing around the outdoor classroom in search of supplies for their journey to the New World. They may tell you about their "Rescue mission" where they had to build ambulances, rescue the bones, then operate to put the skeleton back together.



All grades worked up a sweat over the Fitnessgram testing. Every grade ran the PACER **endurance** test and the Sit and Reach Box and Trunk Lift for **flexibility**. Third and fourth grades will also test their **abdominal strength** with sit~ups and their **upper body strength** with push~ups.

December will include Beach Volleyball with the Annual 4th Grade Volleyball Tournament on December 22. We look forward to this exciting event, which includes a Championship game of 4th Graders vs teachers.

"EXERCISE~ Most people just don't get it!"

ANONYMOUS

Mrs. Smith and Mr. Brunell



News from the Media Center

Floral's Media Center welcomed our new Media Aide, Shelley Crowell, this fall. Shelly ran the Media Center's Donate-A-Book program for the past six years. We are thrilled to have her join the Media team!

A big thanks goes out to Katie Treiber for taking over as Coordinator of the Donate-A-Book program. The Donate-A-Book program is a wonderful way for families to support the Media Center. For a \$15 dollar donation a new book can be added to the Media Center of your child's choosing. Books can be dedicated to a teacher or can celebrate a student achievement, birthday, or holiday. The Donate-A-Book form is available on the Media Center page on the Floral website. Forms are also sent home throughout the school year. Thank you for your support!

The Media Center is always looking for volunteers to assist the staff in shelving books and other various duties. If you are interested in volunteering in the Media Center please contact Aileen Daley at adaley@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us.



ART ROOM UPDATE

Greetings, Floral Families. We are the two art teachers at Floral Street School, Ms. DeAngelis and Mr. Wilson. We both teach all the third grade classes, so third grade students have art twice a week; once with each of us. We also share teaching the first grade classes, but split those between us. First graders have art once a week, as do second and fourth grade classes.

Both Mr. Wilson and Ms. DeAngelis wish to be more in touch with Floral families. Reach out anytime to us at our email (rwilson@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us and sdeangelis@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us)

Art Supply Donations

All art cart materials are shared between students. The art cart is in desperate need of Clorox wipes. Keeping the tables clean and germ free is important for young artists! In the art room old rags and paper plates of any kind or design are always needed. Any donations can be dropped off at any time in the art room. Thank you in advance! :)

SPS Art Website

Every month five student artworks from every Shrewsbury school are chosen for display at the Shrewsbury Town Hall. Please visit the SPS Visual Art Department Website to view the artwork by these students. <https://sites.google.com/a/shrewsbury.k12.ma.us/art-departmen/> This is a nice way for family members and friends that live out of town or far away to see your children's art.



philipmartin.info

Fourth grade: This year the fourth graders are having a great time visiting the Worcester Art Museum with Mr. Wilson on the free Saturdays once a month. The Muse-ambls (as we call them) are based on the 'Master Series' lectures at the museum. Mr. Wilson attends the lecture then shares the information with the students at the Muse-amble. Fourth graders also have a vegetable mascot this year in the art room. They are growing celery!! Everyone hopes it will get very large so they can draw the stalks at the tables.

Third Grade: - This grade has art twice a week! Mr. Wilson will soon be doing an art project with third grade titled 'Ben Franklin and Early American Marbling'. The marbling supplies will be purchased through a grant awarded to Mr. Wilson from the Corridor-Nine Chamber of Commerce. It seems Ben Franklin marbled Continental Currency to protect it from British counterfeiters. Student will replicate a Continental \$25 bill. Starting off the year with Ms. DeAngelis, the third graders learned about complementary colors and visual texture to create animal portraits. Students are currently learning about value and observational drawing to create self-portraits. They will learn and use all seven elements of art by the end of the year!

Second Grade:

A student teacher from Boston University, Ms. Martinelli, was teaching in the art room from September 1st to October 30th. She did amazing art projects while she was here. The second graders under her direction did a fish print and placed that print on a paper circle resembling a plate, then placed all of that on a patterned tablecloth made of paper and colored in with oil pastels. They are on display at the school now for you to see. The students' new project with Mr. Wilson is a watercolor painting on very wet paper. They will outline new overlapping shapes made by the paint then outline their own painted shapes as well. Very exciting!

First Grade:

The first grade classes are divided between Ms. DeAngelis and Mr. Wilson. Ms DeAngelis sees the majority of the first grade students. These young artists are so excited when art class begins. Our curriculum with first graders is focused on teaching line, color (Primary and Secondary colors), shapes, and texture. All students will practice their cutting and gluing, which improves their fine motor skills.



explore!



discover!

Explore. Imagine. Discover.
Art at home provides a fun way
to exercise your brain!



Look for the newest edition of the SPECIAL-ist EDITION next trimester! If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact us. We look forward to connecting with Floral Families as the year goes on.